

101 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 JUN 2002

10 - Oct 9874

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE (EO/US)

Applicant: William F. AFTOORA Docket No.: WFA-1400
Serial No: 10/049,876 Examiner: not assigned yet
Filed: February 12, 2002 Group Art Unit: not assigned yet
For: FLAVORED SOLID-FORM FOOD PRODUCT AND METHOD OF PREPARATION

BOX PCT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Certificate of Express Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail - Label No. EL722634199US - "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: Box PCT, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Laura A. Rich
(type or print name of person signing paper)

Laura A. Rich
(signature of person mailing paper)

6-20-02
(date)

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BEFORE A FIRST OFFICE ACTION ON THE MERITS

(37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant submits this paper in compliance with his duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Applicant wishes to introduce art having some relevance to the present application, which has been listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08A. This form includes twenty-two (22) United States patent documents. No representation is made that a specific search has been made by Applicant, that the information is material to the claimed subject matter, or that the information represents the only or the best information.

Applicant does not admit that any of the information provided is necessarily prior to his invention, but rather it is information of which he is aware and believes should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding the priority of a specific document shall be resolved during prosecution.

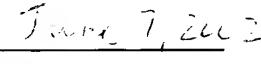
The information provided herewith is in the English language. The referenced art is being cited for the express purpose of providing the Patent and Trademark Office with the opportunity to make an evaluation and to arrive at an independent assessment of materiality of each document, if any, to the examination of this application. The Examiner is requested to disregard any marking on the copies of the cited documents. Markings on the references should not be regarded as necessarily pointing out the portions of the subject document regarded by the Applicant as relevant to the subject application. Applicant respectfully requests that the information cited be made of record in the subject case.

**IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before a first office action on the merits of the application. No fee is due with the filing of this paper. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3).

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph G. Curatolo
Joseph G. Curatolo, Esq. (Reg. No. 28,837)
Renner, Kenner, Greive, Bobak, Taylor & Weber
24500 Center Ridge Road, Suite 280
Westlake, Ohio 44145
Telephone: (440) 808-0011
Facsimile: (440) 808-0657
Attorney for Applicant


June 7, 2002
Date

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/049,876
				Filing Date	February 12, 2002
				First Named Inventor	William F. AFTOORA
				Group Art Unit	not assigned yet
				Examiner Name	not assigned yet
				Attorney Docket Number	WFA-1400
(use as many sheets as necessary)					
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6,001,408		Dudacek et al.	12-14-1999	
		5,985,350		Gubler et al.	11-16-1999	
		5,939,126		Flynn	08-17-1999	
		5,932,272		Raemy et al.	08-03-1999	
		5,932,270		Rock et al.	08-03-1999	
		5,895,676		Thomas	04-20-1999	
		5,858,426		Bienvenu	01-12-1999	
		5,536,522		Seeds et al.	07-16-1996	
		5,208,062		Sugisawa et al.	05-04-1993	
		5,206,046		Seeds et al.	04-27-1993	
		5,145,705		Seeds	09-08-1992	
		4,844,938		Amamoto et al.	07-04-1989	
		4,568,551		Seewi et al.	02-04-1986	
		4,415,599		Bos	11-15-1983	
		4,363,824		Willi et al.	12-14-1982	
		4,126,710		Jaworski et al.	11-21-1978	
		3,966,993		Luck	06-29-1976	
		3,681,094		Rogers, et al.	08-01-1972	
		3,652,299		Penton	03-28-1972	
		2,278,466		Musher	04-07-1942	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on

the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EL722634199US

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/049,876
				Filing Date	February 12, 2002
				First Named Inventor	William F. AFTOORA
				Group Art Unit	not assigned yet
				Examiner Name	not assigned yet
				Attorney Docket Number	WFA-1400
Sheet	2	of	2		
(use as many sheets as necessary)					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.